

Message Text

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56

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /040 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/BC/B - MR. PACE:LEE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 195525

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, PROP, SOPN, BL

SUBJECT: AGEE COMMENTS ON CIA AGENTS IN BOLIVIA

REF: LA PAZ 6171

1. FOLLOWING IS GUIDANCE ON ALLEGATIONS BY PHILIP AGEE OF CIA ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE USUAL USG PRACTICE WHEN ASKED ABOUT ALLEGED INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES, WE WILL HAVE NO COMMENT ON MR. AGEE'S ALLEGATIONS. IF QUESTIONED IN PRIVATE BY LOCAL OFFICIALS YOU MAY NOTE THAT PAST AGEE ALLEGATIONS AND ACCUSATIONS INVOLVED MANY PEOPLE, FOREIGNERS AS WELL AS AMERICANS. WE HAVE DECIDED SINCE THAT TIME NOT TO ATTEMPT A POINT-BY-POINT RESPONSE, WHICH WOULD ENGAGE US IN A VIRTUALLY ENDLESS AND PROBABLY FRUITLESS TASK. IF YOU ARE HARD PRESSED ON A PARTICULAR ALLEGATION AND BELIEVE THAT IMPORTANT POLICY CONSIDERATIONS ARE INVOLVED YOU SHOULD ASK FOR FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

2. AGEE STATEMENT WAS NOT RAISED AT AUGUST 5 DEPARTMENT
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NOON PRESS BRIEFING. HABIB

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